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THE WEATHER Cloudy and Slightly Warmer Tonight

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 20, 1917

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RIVAL OPINIONS ON HIGHER STRATEGY CAUSE OF CRISIS

Can Germans Be Beaten On Western Front or On Eastern Front?

ENGLAND AGAINST GENERALISSIMO

Personal Controversies Over Versailles Inter-Allies Staff Differences

By JOHN LLOYD BALDERSTON.

London, Nov. 21. (By Mail).—The United States as was inevitable, has been dragged into the main controversy that rages about the decision to set up a supreme war council, with a permanent body of military advisers sitting at Versailles to envisage the situation on all fronts in proper perspective, to "see the war steadily, and see it whole."

CENTRAL POWERS WILL MAKE PEACE OFFER TO ALLIES

Teuton Representatives Told Russians They Are Ready to Consider Peace on Basis of No Annexations or Indemnities—Want Russians to "Sound Out" Allies on Question of Peace

Petrograd, Dec. 20.—According to press reports Russia has been informed by the central powers that they intend to make peace proposals to the allies.

Russia Asked to Help. This report is published in the Evening Post, which says the representatives of the central powers, at the first preliminary peace conference with the Russians, held Tuesday, announced that their governments intended to put the question of peace before all the powers and that they had asked their allies to do likewise.

Point of View May Change. The representatives of the central powers viewed the Russians they were ready to discuss peace preliminaries but desired to know the result of Russia's efforts to induce the allies to join in the negotiations before proceeding with them.

embassy today was entirely without advice of the progress of peace negotiations between the Bolshevik and the central powers, and whatever advice the government was receiving through American Ambassador Francis, or other sources, was not made public.

Some Results of Armistice. London, Dec. 18.—(Delayed).—Peace negotiations between Russia and the central powers, an armistice having been reached, are assuming an aspect of importance.

On Western Front. On the western front the Germans have not yet given any strong indication of where their advertised drive is to begin.

NOT KNOWN WHERE GERMAN DRIVE IN WEST WILL BEGIN

Guns Bombarding Various Sectors From North Sea To Swiss Border

ITALIANS RETIRE TO NEW POSITIONS

Desperate Resistance Given To Renewed Hun Attacks—Shipping Losses, 17

Between Monte Grappa and the Brenta on the Italian northern front, the Italians are resisting desperately renewed Austro-German efforts to break through the hills to the plains.

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What Davidson Thinks Women of America



Henry P. Davidson. This is what Henry P. Davidson, partner in J. P. Morgan & Company, one of the financial powers of America, and now chief executive of the Red Cross, told the people of Omaha about American women:

STEEL CORPORATIONS TO MOVE ENTIRE TOWN

Do Not Like Taxing Methods of the City Council of Hibbing, Minn.

Hibbing, Minn., Dec. 22.—Unable to control the municipal government, the steel corporations are going to literally tear down the entire city of Hibbing, with its 12,000 inhabitants and its millions of dollars worth of improvements.

UKRAINIAN RADA REFUSED TO OBEY BOLSHEVIK ORDERS

State of Siege Has Been Proclaimed in Petrograd—Ukraine Refuses to Permit Bolsheviki Troops to Cross Territory to Attack Kaledines—Cossacks Occupy Roster-on-the-Don

A state of siege has been proclaimed in Petrograd and the Ukrainian rada has refused to obey an ultimatum presented by the Bolshevik government.

Relations Between Ukraine and the Bolshevik government have not been cordial. The Ukrainian rada has refused to permit Bolshevik troops to cross its territory to attack General Kaledines and several days ago Bolshevik troops attacked the rada as it was sitting in Odessa and were defeated by Ukrainian troops.

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of workmen's and soldiers' delegates. Says Allies For Kaledines. Petrograd, Dec. 19.—(Delayed).—The Bolshevik newspapers are complaining that the presence of the allied military missions in the Ukraine is encouraging General Kaledines, leader of the counter revolution against the maximalist government.

Refused Passage For Troops. The Bolshevik government two weeks ago reported that Tschelabinsk was being besieged by troops under General Dutoff, hetman of the Ural Cossacks and one of the leaders of the counter revolution.

In its official announcement concerning the counter revolution and since that time the Bolshevik government has claimed that the Ukraine was aiding the Cossacks and the constitutional democrats.

ALABAMA UNION MINERS CONSIDERING AGREEMENT

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 20.—A convention of the Alabama locals, U. M. O. A., is being held here today for the purpose of considering the terms of the agreement offered in Washington between representatives of the union and Alabama Coal Operators' association, regarding the demands of the union relative to working conditions in the Birmingham district.

INVESTIGATION SHIPPING BOARD BEGINS FRIDAY

Washington, Dec. 20.—Investigation of the government shipping board and Emergency Fleet corporation's operations under the resolution of Senator Harding which the senate adopted, the senate commerce committee decided today, will begin tomorrow afternoon with Chairman Hurley as the first witness.

TONIGHT WILL BE "LIGHTLESS NIGHT"

Washington, Dec. 20.—The first week day "lightless night" will be observed throughout the country tonight in strict compliance with the rules of the fuel administration.

General Scott Returns

An Atlantic Port, Dec. 19.—Major-General Hugh L. Scott, U. S. A., who is to be assigned as chief instructor of officers of the new National army, returned today from Europe on an American steamship.

GENERAL IMPROVEMENT TO HEALTH OF SOLDIERS

Woolen Uniforms for All Men Either at Camps or En Route

Washington, Dec. 20.—The war department has complied with all but one of Surgeon-General Gorgas' recommendations for betterment of training camp conditions, and Secretary Baker has announced, and a general improvement in the health of the men already noted by field sanitation officers in reports on national guard divisions, is expected to result.

Archbishop of York Coming

The Right Honorable and Most Reverend Cosmo Gordon Lang, archbishop of York, will come to the United States in 1918 to preach during Lent at Trinity church in New York city.



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Portuguese Repulse Germans

London, Dec. 20.—Portuguese troops near Laventie, north of Arras, last night repulsed an attempted German raid according to an official statement issued today from British headquarters in France and Belgium.

British Aviation Activities

London, Dec. 18.—(Delayed).—The official statement on aviation activities issued by the British war office tonight reads: "Heavy snow prevented flying on Monday except on a small portion of the southern front."

Italian Statement

Rome, Dec. 18.—(Delayed).—The Italian war office, Tuesday issued the following statement on military operations: "Yesterday, the seventh day of the battle between the Brenta and the Piave the enemy concentrated his efforts almost exclusively on the Monte Solovolo salient."

ROMAN CATHOLIC MINERS CAN WORK ON HOLY DAYS

Washington, Dec. 20.—Cardinal Gibbons gave his sanction today to Roman Catholic miners working on the holy days falling within the Christmas and New Year's holiday season.

Wanted Increase in Rates

Washington, Dec. 20.—The Georgia and Florida railway today applied to the Interstate Commerce commission for permission to make increases of 1/4 cent and one cent per hundred pounds in rates on naval stores from Georgia producing points at Brunswick, Savannah and Jacksonville.

Serbian Mission Arrives

An Atlantic Port, Dec. 20.—A Serbian diplomatic mission to the United States arrived here today. It is headed by Dr. M. R. Veskich, who represented Serbia at the inter-allied conference at Paris.

Changes in Chinese Offices

Peking, Dec. 20.—Tuan Chi-Jui, former premier, is appointed chief of the Chinese European war bureau by the presidential mandate issued today.

Eleven Killed By Explosion

Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 20.—Eleven men were killed by an explosion in the Dar Dour company coal mine near Nemo, Tenn., late afternoon.

MAJ.-GEN. MORRISON MADE DIRECTOR OF TRAINING

Washington, Dec. 20.—Major-General John F. Morrison has been appointed director of military training with headquarters at the war college in this city.

Commended For Gallantry

Washington, Dec. 20.—David Goldman, machinist mate, has been commended by Secretary Daniels for gallantry in having rescued Arthur G. Palmer, a shipmate, from drowning on October 30.

Japanese Preparedness Advocates Get Busy

Tokio, Nov. 10 (By mail).—Led by Admiral Baron Saito, for many years minister of marine and largely responsible for the modern Japanese navy, a campaign has been opened by preparedness preachers here to give Japan greater strength on the sea.

Steel Plant Idle

Youngstown, O., Dec. 20.—Approximately 50 per cent of the steel making capacity of Youngstown plants, representing fully 19 per cent of the entire United States, is idle owing to coal shortages.

LUXBURG'S TELEGRAMS TO BE MADE PUBLIC

Washington, Dec. 20.—Some two score more of telegrams which passed between Count von Luxburg, German minister to Argentina, and the German foreign office, will be made public today by the state department by agreement with the Argentine government.